

What is claimed is:

1. A developing device comprising:

a developer-carrying member that conveys a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer to a surface of an image-carrying member;

a supplying member that supplies a developer to the developer-carrying member; and

a removing member that removes a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer remaining on a peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member that was not supplied to the image-carrying member, wherein

the developer-carrying member rotates in a rotational direction such that the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the supplying member moves vertically downward; and

the removing member is positioned vertically above the supplying member and upstream of the supplying member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member.

2. The developing device according to claim 1, wherein the removing member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the removing member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the removing member while in contact with the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member.

3. The developing device according to claim 1, wherein  
a bias is applied to between the removing member and the  
developer-carrying member so as to attract the charged  
nonmagnetic single-component developer from the peripheral  
5 surface of the developer-carrying member to the removing  
member, wherein the removing member is formed of a  
conductive material.

4. The developing device according to claim 1, wherein  
the removing member rotates and has a peripheral surface,  
10 and a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the  
removing member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-1.3.

5. The developing device according to claim 1,  
wherein:

the supplying member rotates such that a peripheral  
15 surface of the supplying member opposing the developer-  
carrying member moves in the same direction as the  
peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing  
the supplying member;

a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the  
20 supplying member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-  
1.3.

6. The developing device according to claim 5,  
wherein the supplying member is formed of a conductive  
material, and the supplying member and the developer-  
25 carrying member have the same potential.

7. The developing device according to claim 1,  
wherein:

the supplying member rotates such that a peripheral  
surface of the supplying member opposing the developer-  
5 carrying member moves in the same direction as the  
peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing  
the supplying member;

a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the  
supplying member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-  
10 1.3;

the supplying member is formed of a conductive  
material;

the supplying member and the developer-carrying member  
have the same potential; and

15 a bias is applied to between the supplying member and  
the developer-carrying member so as to attract the charged  
nonmagnetic single-component developer from the supplying  
member to the developer-carrying member.

8. The developing device according to claim 1, further  
20 comprising a thickness-regulating member that is disposed  
downstream of the supplying member in the rotational  
direction of the developer-carrying member, the thickness-  
regulating member regulates a thickness of the charged-  
nonmagnetic single-component developer carried on the  
25 developer-carrying member.

9. A developing device comprising:

a developer-carrying member that conveys a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer to a surface of an image-carrying member;

5 a supplying member that supplies a developer to the developer-carrying member; and

a removing member that removes a nonmagnetic single-component developer remaining on a peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member that was not supplied to the image-carrying member, wherein

10 the removing member is positioned upstream of the supplying member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member;

the removing member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the removing member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the removing member while in contact with the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member.

15 20 10. The developing device according to claim 9, wherein the removing member is formed of a conductive material, and a bias is applied to between the removing member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the electrically-charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the developer-carrying member to the removing

member.

11. The developing device according to claim 9, wherein a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the removing member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-1.3.

5 12. The developing device according to claim 9, wherein the supplying member rotates such that a peripheral surface of the supplying member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing  
10 the supplying member, and a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the supplying member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-1.3.

13. The developing device according to claim 12, wherein the supplying member is formed of a conductive  
15 material, and the supplying member and the developer-carrying member have the same potential.

14. The developing device according to claim 9, wherein:

the supplying member rotates such that a peripheral  
20 surface of the supplying member opposing the developer-carrying member moves in the same direction as the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the supplying member;

a velocity ratio of the peripheral surfaces of the  
25 supplying member and the developer-carrying member is 0.7-

1.3;

the supplying member is formed of a conductive material;

the supplying member and the developer-carrying member have the same potential; and

a bias is applied to between the supplying member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the electrically-charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the supplying member to the developer-carrying member.

10 15. The developing device according to claim 9, further comprising a thickness-regulating member that is disposed downstream of the supplying member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member, the thickness-regulating member regulating a thickness of a developer carried on the developer-carrying member.

16. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

an image-carrying member;

a developer-carrying member that conveys a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer to a surface of the image-carrying member;

a supplying member, formed of a conductive material, that supplies a developer to the developer-carrying member;

a removing member, formed of a conductive material, that removes a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer remaining on a peripheral surface of the

developer-carrying member that was not supplied to the image-carrying member; and

a power source; wherein

5 the developer-carrying member rotates in a rotational direction such that the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing the supplying member moves vertically downward;

10 the removing member is positioned vertically above the supplying member and upstream of the supplying member in the rotational direction of the developer-carrying member;

15 a bias is applied by the power source to between the removing member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member to the removing member, and

a bias is applied by the power source to between the supplying member and the developer-carrying member so as to attract the charged nonmagnetic single-component developer from the supplying member to the developer-carrying member.

20 17. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

an image-carrying member;

a developer-carrying member that conveys a charged nonmagnetic single-component developer to a surface of the image-carrying member;

25 a supplying member, formed of a conductive material,

that supplies a developer to the developer-carrying member;

a removing member, formed of a conductive material,  
that removes a nonmagnetic single-component developer  
remaining on a peripheral surface of the developer-carrying  
5 member that was not supplied to the image-carrying member;  
and

a power source, wherein

the removing member is positioned upstream of the  
supplying member in the rotational direction of the  
10 developer-carrying member;

the removing member rotates such that a peripheral  
surface of the removing member opposing the developer-  
carrying member moves in the same direction as the  
peripheral surface of the developer-carrying member opposing  
15 the removing member while in contact with the peripheral  
surface of the developer-carrying member;

the power source applies a bias to between the  
removing member and the developer-carrying member so as to  
attract the electrically-charged nonmagnetic single-  
20 component developer from the developer-carrying member to  
the removing member; and

the power source applies a bias to between the  
supplying member and the developer-carrying member so as to  
attract the electrically-charged nonmagnetic single-  
25 component developer from the supplying member to the



developer-carrying member.